GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:365
ANSWERED ON:10.09.2007
COMMITTEE TO REVIEW THE FUNCTIONING OF DRDO
Saradgi Shri Iqbal Ahmed

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has set up an independent and external committee of experts to conduct a comprehensive review of the functioning of the DRDO;

(b) if so, whether the Government has received the report of the Committee; and

(c) if so, the details of its main recommendations and the action taken by the Government thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) to (c) : A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 365 FOR ANSWER ON 10.09.2007.

The Government had constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. Vijay L. Kelkar essentially to examine and recommend changes in the defence acquisition process in order to synergize the efforts of various stakeholders for improving the prospects of indigenous production and utilizing the resources available both in the public and private sector with the objective to strengthen self-reliance in defence preparedness.In order to examine the effectiveness of R&D support provided vis-Ã -vis in-house research facilities with DRDO, and to ensure effective participation of the private sector in Defence Research, the Committee had recommended a Review of the functioning of DRDO by a separate Committee of independent group of external experts.

In the light of above recommendations, an independent Committee of experts has been constituted by the Government on February 8, 2007 under the Chairmanship of Dr. P. Rama Rao. The constitution of the Committee is as under :-

Chairman:

Dr. P. Rama Rao, Former Secretary, Deptt. of Science & Technology and Vice Chancellor, Central University, Hyderabad & Chairman, Atomic Energy Regulatory Board and presently ISRO Dr. Brahm Prakash Distinguished Professor.

Members:

1.Shri AK Ghosh, Former FA(DS)

2. Dr. CG Krishnadas Nair, Former Chairman, HAL & presently President SIATI

3. Mr. Satish K. Kaura, Chairman & Managing Director Samtel Colour Limited & Chairman Industry Council, CII.

4. Prof. (Dr.) Tapan Kumar Ghoshal, Prof & Head Electrical Engineering Deptt, Jadavpur University, Kolkata.

5. Vice Admiral P Jaitly, PVSM, AVSM, VSM (Retd.), Former Chief of Materials,Naval Headquarters.

6. Air Marshal Ajit Bhavnani, PVSM, AVSM, VM, ADC (Retd.), Former Vice Chief of the Air Staff.

7 Lt Gen CS Chima, PVSM (Retd.), Former DG AAD

8. Shri K Sekhar, Outstanding Scientist, DRDO

The Committee is in the process of interactions with senior officials of Ministry of Defence, DRDO and Services.The Committee is likely to submit its report to the Government within a period of one year from the date of its constitution.